GUIDE TO THE FF52 NUPE FILE

[The Nupe file consists of nine sources, four of them by the late Siegfried Frederick Nadel, a prominent British social anthropologist. The main source, A Black Byzantium (1: Nadel), is mainly focused on political and economic organization, with attention to urban-rural relationships and differences. A second major source by Nadel (2: Nadel) deals with religion and other aspects of culture having functional relationships to religion. 3: Forde is an analytic survey of Nupe culture, part of the Ethnographic Survey of Africa, and contains materials from all sources known to Forde at the time (1955).

4: Temple is a section from a handbook by a governmental official, containing information from documents otherwise inaccessible. 5: Nadel is a description of the political organization of the Kede, one of the constituent units of the Nupe state, which has many aberrant features. 6: Annonymous is a well-illustrated, brief account of the various crafts still existing in Bida, the capital of Nupe. 7: Nicholson describes the detailed procedure of making pottery. 8: Walker is a brief study of cast metal figures and Nupe legendary history. 9: Nadel describes the functions and historical development of the institution of royal executioner.

In general, this file is adequate in material pertaining to religion, and political and economic organization. It is particularly deficient in the categories relating to material culture, and also in those relating to human biology, language, and behavioral processes. Nupe society and culture are not homogeneous, and numerous religious and other acculturative influences are at work.

Several marking decisions were made for this file: information on the Mallam schools has been place in category 874; information on the ticiži, the "Titled Ones," the office nobility of the Nupe state, has been placed

in category 565; information on the Mallams, combination jurists and Mohammedan scholars, has been placed in category 875; information on the bara-ship, the sacrifice of individual freedom for the sake of political protection by a patron, has been placed in category 566; information on the barber-doctor guild has been placed in categories 759 and 305; information on the renting and leasing of land by baras has been placed in 425 as well as 566 and 427. The file was processed between 1958 and 1963.]